



As a response to global events of the past few years, numerous political leaders, representing the entire ideological spectrum, have argued that the study of foreign languages is critical to our nation. For example, in June 2004, at a conference sponsored by the Department of

Defense, David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, spoke on the importance of studying foreign languages. In addition to addressing the role that they can play in national defense, Mr. Chu stressed that foreign languages were essential for interacting with international partners, becoming involved in humanitarian missions, and developing tolerance of the cultural and linguistic world outside the United States. One of our professional organizations, the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), has recognized the necessity of building on this national momentum and has designated 2005 as the Year of Languages. ACTFL and its affiliate organizations; foreign language educators at elementary, secondary, and postsecondary institutions; politicians at local, state, and national levels; and business people from across the nation will participate in a year-long campaign to draw attention to the academic, social, and economic importance of learning foreign languages. Numerous activities have been planned. For more information on the background, goals, and calendar of events for this national initiative, you can consult the ACTFL website at [www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org).

ACTFL's plans for the Year of Languages perfectly complement what happens in FLL on a day-to-day basis. We did, however, take advantage of ACTFL's initiative to highlight the importance and fun of studying foreign languages. We asked students enrolled in courses ranging from first- through fourth-year to tell us why they think it is important to study a foreign language. Motivations range from preparing for a career in business to learning about one's own heritage to discovering new cultures. Excerpts from their responses appear on pages 4-5.

The Year of Languages, a national initiative, also served as the point of departure for *FLL Moments*, a local endeavor. These *Moments* are broadcast in-between or during pauses of regularly scheduled programs on Time Warner Cable Channel 5 and Charter Cable Channel 12. Check them out. FLL faculty speak on an aspect of the language that they teach. Find out why Japanese may be easier than you think and why German may be more humorous than you ever imagined.

Finally, on behalf of the entire department, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Ms. Eunice "Bambi" MacRae, former UNCW student and trustee, and her daughter, Marguerite Bellamy MacRae, for creating an endowed scholarship to be awarded to students who have formally declared a major in French. We thank the MacRaes for giving us a way to reward the accomplishments and dedication of some of our star students, not only during the Year of Languages but in the foreseeable future. See page 6 for a brief article on the first recipients of this award.

### Graduate Student's Research Accepted for Publication



**Lynell Williams**, Coordinator of UNCW's Tutoring and Learning Center and graduate student in the Graduate Certificate Program in Hispanic Studies, had her essay "La impotencia: La vida novelística de dos teorías económicas" accepted for publication in the Spring 2005 edition of *El Cid*, a journal for graduate and undergraduate students published by the Tau Iota Chapter (The Citadel) of Sigma Delta Pi, national collegiate honorary society for Spanish. Lynell's essay was originally written for Peter Thomas's SPN 512 ("Current Issues in Latin America through Literature and Film") in Spring 2004 and revised for publication in Terry Mount's SPN 500 ("Advanced Writing Techniques") in Fall 2004. In it, Lynell examines the lives of the protagonists in Vargas Llosa's *Historia de Mayta* and Fuguet's *Mala onda* as metaphors for two distinct economic theories (dependency theory and neoliberalism). Congratulations, Lynell!

# Highlights from the Language Sections

## French

- Recent additions to the curriculum include French for Business, the French at War in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, French Theater and Performance, Spaces of the Francophone World, Crises of French Identity, French Cinema through Conversation, Medieval and Early Modern French Travel Literature, Women in French Cinema, and Advanced Grammar and Composition.
- The French Section, in cooperation with the Department of Film Studies, hosted the Second Annual *Cinéma Nouveau: UNCW French Film Festival*, featuring five recent 35 mm films from France and francophone Africa. Dr. Michelle Scatton-Tessier and Dr. Tim Palmer (Film Studies) organized the event.
- The UNCW French Club, advised by Dr. Pascale Barthe and led by students Jennifer Litchfield, Sandy Tatum, and Caroline Brock, has been very active in the 2004-2005 academic year. Events for fall 2004 included a pizza and soda kick-off party, a presentation by a Peace Corps recruiter, a pot-luck dinner, a talk by a subtitle translator of international cinema, and dinner at Carpice Bistro. During the holiday season, the French Club's "Adopt-a-Family" activity brought cheer to a local family in need.
- There are currently 73 majors and minors in French. Many thanks to Dr. P.J. Lapaire for his role as primary advisor to our undergraduates in French.
- UNCW students participated in overseas study programs in France and the francophone world. The UNC Consortium Program in Paris offers courses on French at the Sorbonne, Paris: Capital of World Cinema, and 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> Century French Art and Literature. The program in Marseille offers courses on French, International Business, and European Culture and features a three-week internship with a local business. Other students selected from 21 exchange programs at francophone universities in places such as Québec (Canada); Nice, Grenoble, Lille, and Rennes (France); Lausanne (Switzerland); and La Réunion (a French DOM in the Indian Ocean).
- The French Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi, now in its second year at UNCW, inducted 3 new members in December. With 3 from last year we now have 6 members!

## German

- Raymond Burt and Oliver Speck worked on the Request to Establish a BA in German Studies. The Request was approved by the Department of Foreign Languages & Literatures, the University Curriculum Committee, and the UNCW Faculty Senate. It will be sent to the UNC central administration in Chapel Hill in March. We hope to offer a B.A. in German Studies starting in Fall 2005.
- Oliver C. Speck taught a class for Public Service and Continuing Studies, entitled "German for Travelers."
- In the Summer, Gisela Reid took UNCW students to Bremen, Germany, on a month long, intensive training program at the Hochschule Bremen. Raymond Burt visited Baden-Württemberg as part of a UNC delegation. During that time, he negotiated a new summer program at the University of Ulm for science students. Dr. Curt Moyer will be taking the first group of UNCW students to Ulm this summer for a two-month program of intensive language study and a lab course in Physics.

## Spanish

- Professor Lori Spicher left UNCW to begin a new chapter in her professional career at St. Mary's College of California which is in Moraga, near Berkeley and San Francisco. The Department expresses appreciation to Dr. Spicher for the years she dedicated to our Spanish students and wishes her well in her new situation.
- Spanish is growing by leaps and bounds! During Fall semester 2004, Spanish majors numbered 145 and minors 232.
- The Spanish section welcomed Mary Watts, Ph.D., University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, who joined our faculty as an Assistant Professor in August. Mary is a linguist with expertise in Second Language Acquisition. She will contribute to instruction in linguistics and in the Spanish-French teacher education program. Other additions included Visiting Assistant Professor Adrienne Royo and new part-time lecturers Marianella Jara Smith, Mónica Marsten and Josephine Andrews.

# Highlights from the Language Sections

## Spanish

- Lisa Evans, graduate student in the Hispanic Certificate Program, completed requirements for the certificate in Summer II, 2004. Congratulations to Lisa, who is the third student to complete this program!
- The FLL Department and the Spanish section welcomed the Chiapas, Mexico, theater group “Fortaleza de la Mujer Maya” (FOMMA), which gave a performance King Hall on October 21. The group’s UNCW visit was sponsored by the departments of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Anthropology, Sociology and Criminal Justice, and Political Science; the Office of Campus Diversity; and a grateful UNCW faculty member.
- Interest in Study Abroad continues to grow among our Spanish students. In Spring 2004, several students completed the semester program at the Universitat de Vic (Cataluña). Our students also participated in the Consortium Program in Santander in Spring 2004 and in the Fall semester when the group was accompanied by UNCW’s Prof. John Stevens, who served as the program director. During the summer, students traveled to Ubeda, Spain (with Miguel Jiménez); to Valparaíso, Chile (with Valerie Rider); and to Quito, Ecuador, to the Universidad de San Francisco de Quito. Exchange students went to USFQ and to the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso (Chile) during Spring and Fall semesters. The Spanish section is exploring possibilities for the establishment of an on-going summer program in Spain and is currently investigating sites in that country.
- Rho Lambda Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi (Spanish Honorary Society) inducted 22 new members in May.
- The **Spanish Club** has been involved in several activities this year. Members served as volunteers in setting up booths and decorations for the Festival Latino at Hugh MacRae Park. During the festival they worked at the Amigos International booth as well as at the stage. Also, members created and organized a children’s study/play room at the Centro Latino downtown. The Spanish Club conducted fundraisers to adopt a family for Christmas, and delivered food and toys for needy children in the community. The Club’s officers this year are: Rubyann Rodriguez, President; Elizabeth Cramond, Vice President, Jodie Yantachka, Treasurer; Amy Thomas, Secretary. Dr. Teresita J. Parra has served again as Faculty Advisor.

## Portuguese

- In its fourth semester at UNCW, the **Portuguese Program** has good news. It is thriving! Our enrollment has doubled and we now have 66 students in 101, 102, and 201 combined.
- The Portuguese Program is also glad to announce that some of our Portuguese students will be taking advantage of **UNCW Exchange Programs** to spend a semester or a year in Brazil through the US-Brazil Business School Consortium funded by FIPSE and through the UNC State-to-State Agreement with Paraná.
- The **Brazilian Club** is responsible for spreading the word about the program and raising interest in travel to Brazil. In the last year, it organized a variety of events. Highlights include a Brazilian music ensemble for the **Intercultural Week** and the Azalea Festival as well as the famous *Feijoada* at Dr. Herbert Berg’s, where students, faculty from various departments, and friends from the community enjoyed food and drinks around the pool. Jessica Pohlen is president; Thiago Lima is vice president, and Dr. Regina Félix serves as faculty adviser. The Club depends on the help of many other students and friends. If you are interested in joining the club please come to our meetings every other Thursday at Bolero’s Café. Contact Dr. Félix at felixr@uncw.edu for meeting times.
- The **Brazilian Table /Bate Papo** is collecting new adepts all the time. We meet twice a month on Thursdays at Boleros Café to chat in Portuguese, Spanish, English or a mixture of it all.

## Excerpts from students responses to the question,



**Richard K. Norwood** – French: *Foreign Languages: Needed not recommended.* Foreign languages are becoming a necessity in today's world. It is not only important in the business world, but also in communications and other fields of work where cooperation is needed. For instance, my major is film studies and I may one day be working with French crew members or be working on a French film. With improving technology, the world is being brought to our doorstep and we have to be ready to respond with whatever language is brought to us. Foreign languages are no longer just recommended or a plus on a resume in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, they are necessities.

**Matt Zuckerman**-Japanese: I find no other culture in the world as intriguing as that of the Japanese. Their society thrives economically yet takes measures to maintain the time-honored traditions that make them unique. To learn of this culture and their language is not only practical for those interested in business but beneficial to those who seek to broaden their worldly perspectives.

**Mark Forte**-Italian: Studying a foreign language means more than just acquiring an edge that will aid you in the job market or a source of credits desperately needed to graduate. Learning a new language enables one to communicate with other human beings outside the boundaries of the home country. With that comes exposure to, and even acquisition of, new ideas, traditions and styles of life. The world has so much to offer. The ability to speak more than the native language will open doors never even thought to have been there. From my own experiences the greatest times of my life are attributed to my ability to communicate in a language other than English. Foreign languages can take you anywhere you want to go and help you discover the splendors of other cultures.



**Steve D'Agostino**-Italian: I think that it is important to study a foreign language because it opens new doors and avenues. I have studied Spanish for the majority of my educational life. Now, how has this helped me in my life? Well, for starters, it is really great to be able to talk to more people. Of course, this goes along with the fact that I love people, and I want to be able to associate with as many of them as possible. I have had friends from all over the Spanish-speaking world, with many of them speaking little to no English. Professionally this will help, as well. I am studying to be an asset manager, so my network is the most important thing in the world to me. Being of Italian blood, and being able to speak Spanish, I decided to learn a third language, clearly being Italian. At this point, I am still in the stage of excitement from being able to use new words to express old ideas to new people. How cool. With all of this in mind, I cannot imagine what importance there could possibly be in NOT learning a new language.



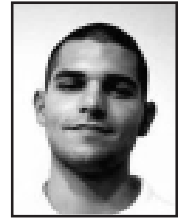
**Keegan Kortright**-Spanish: Now, more than ever, it is very important to study a foreign language. Your horizons can be broadened by exposing yourself to a different language and culture. Also, one can close the gap of a language barrier. In my opinion, Americans should focus on studying foreign language more in order to improve international business relations and increase knowledge of other countries. Also, to improve your skills, traveling is an exceptional method to learn the language which you are studying.

**David Croom**-German: UNCW's German program is just as good, if not better than, the other foreign language programs on campus. All the professors become your friends, inside and out of class, making learning more enjoyable. German is a wonderful language to learn, being the root of our own English and there are many job opportunities to those who can speak. On top of all that, Germany and Austria are phenomenal countries to live and work in, providing a unique culture and way of life.



# “Why is it important to study a foreign language?”

**Michael Dondarski-Russian:** The study of Russian is an exciting educational experience. My involvement in the program entails exposure to the rich history, culture, religion, literature and society of Russia. In addition to exploring one’s heritage, mastering the Russian language provides one with the priceless opportunity of communication, whether it is for the purpose of business, politics or pleasure. The majestic beauty of a proud artistic tradition in Russia is portrayed through its language, offering the simple but priceless art of communication and appreciation for the history of the Russian people.



**Jared Weeks-Japanese:** Studying Japanese is important to me because I’m *moving* to Japan this summer to start my career. Mastering the language will come as I live there, but studying Japanese here has given me a **big** heads-up on complex grammar, advanced vocabulary and cultural idiosyncrasies.

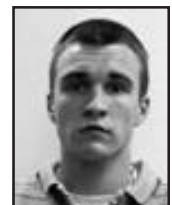


**Sandra Lee Tatum-French:** My interest in the French language started when I met a French family when I was about eight years old. I learned how to count and say, “Bonjour/Au revoir, mes amis!” When I was 12, we had a French exchange student, Sandra. It was at that time that I really started focusing on learning all that I could about the French language and culture. I knew that one day I would go to France. After studying 3 years in high school and 4 semesters in college, my dream finally came true. I went to study at the Sorbonne for a semester! I am now a double major in French and International Business and working on my departmental thesis. I feel that it is necessary for children and young teens to be exposed to cultures so that they too

may have the opportunity to learn about other people and enter into the many different worlds that language opens up for a person.

**Larry Skorupski-Italian:** Taking a quick glance at the question, the obvious answer is to learn the language. However taking a deeper look, we realize that learning another language can help a student in many more aspects of their lives. To begin with, a foreign language can help an individual break down the root of a word to understand its meaning. Also, if a student plans to visit a foreign country, they will have a working vocabulary to be able to get around effectively. Throughout our country, businesses are looking for multi talented individuals with fluency in two or more languages. They would like to advertise their products or services to every aspect of the market, and need to express these views in multi cultural exhibits. Foreign language students will have learned about some of these cultures and traditions in the classroom, enabling them to be effective in the global economy.

**Tyler Tilley-Portuguese:** The reason I am furthering my education in the Portuguese language is because after my third most recent trip to Brazil I have decided I want to move there when I graduate. I just love the people, their good nature, the food and culture, and everything else about the whole country. So I need to learn the language first.



**Marco Arce-Spanish:** I believe that choosing Spanish as your major is beneficial to an individual entering the workforce, and that speaking Spanish will soon be necessary for effective everyday communication. There are many employers who specifically look for individuals who are bilingual. These individuals have a distinct advantage over people who speak one language. In regards to communication in general, the language barrier that separates English speakers from native Hispanic speakers will be broken and effective communication will then come into play.



**Katie Walsh-Beginning Portuguese:** As a Spanish major, I initially signed up for Portuguese 101 because I thought it would be interesting to learn the language. It turns out that Portuguese is very similar to Spanish and I found myself liking it more as the semester progressed. I registered for 102 to further expand my knowledge of the language in the hopes of traveling one day either to Brazil or Portugal. Who knows? Maybe something life-altering will happen when I’m visiting. Until then, I am proud to be learning such a beautiful language.

# Awards, Scholarships and Honors

## Justin Pirrone Receives the Gilman Scholarship



**Justin Pirrone**, major in Spanish, received the Benjamin A. Gilman scholarship, which provides awards for US undergraduate students who are receiving federal Pell Grant funding to participate in study abroad programs worldwide. Award amounts vary depending on the length of study and student need with the average award being \$4,000 (maximum award: \$5,000). Justin received the maximum award for study at the Universidad San Francisco in Quito, Ecuador, during spring semester 2005. Justin is currently enrolled in the licensure program and plans on teaching Spanish after graduation. In his application for this award, Justin addressed how this immersion experience would greatly enhance his linguistic and cultural competency and, therefore, make him a more effective teacher. Congratulations, Justin!

## Billie Olivia Fleming Wins Rachel Freeman Service and Leadership Award



At the May 2004 commencement ceremony, Spanish and marketing major, **Billie Olivia Fleming**, received the prestigious Rachel Freeman Service and Leadership Award, in recognition of her demonstrated leadership qualities, record of community involvement, and efforts to enhance minority presence at UNCW. In a speech at graduation, Dr. Patricia Leonard, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, remarked that throughout her undergraduate career at UNCW, “Billie has been an excellent role model for her peers.” Highlights of Billie’s involvement on campus include serving on the Chancellor’s Task Force on Diversity; co-chairing the Southeastern African American Student Leadership Conference; and co-coordinating the College Exploration Day Program; serving on the executive boards of the Native American Student Organization and Global Serve; mentoring in the Protégé and Leader Program; and spearheading numerous programs and services in the Center for Leadership Education and Service. Off-campus, Billie has also been an active member of the greater-Wilmington community by serving as a member of the multi-cultural events committee for the 2003 Azalea Festival and volunteering with the Love Center’s Voyager Program. This is not the first time Billie has been recognized for her leadership qualities. She also received the Academic Achievement and Minority Student Leadership Award, the Minority Presence Scholarship, the Phillip Cassel’s Memorial Scholarship, the UNCW Leadership Excellence Award, and the UNCW Senior Medallion. Billie has just accepted a position with Kraft Foods Corporation. Congratulations, Billie!

## Eunice T. and Marguerite B. MacRae French Scholarships

The **French section** proudly announces the awarding of the first three Eunice T. and Marguerite B. MacRae UNCW French scholarships to **Roisin Quigley**, **Liz Wellons**, and **Jessica Coleman**. The scholarship was created by Ms. Eunice “Bambi” MacRae and her daughter Ms. Marguerite Bellamy MacRae to give UNCW students the opportunity to discover and enjoy, as she herself did at the same age, the culture and the language of the French-speaking world. She is very happy to see the first scholarships being awarded and her support being put to good use in helping to foster more study of the foreign language she loves. Congratulations to the scholarship recipients!



## FLL Students Receive Scholarships, Honors, and Awards

Students in FLL received numerous scholarships, honors, and awards in 2004. **Richard Lathrop**, Spanish major, was named recipient of the Wilmington Coca-Cola scholarship (\$450). This scholarship is given annually to a student in humanities. **Lauren Brown**, French major, and **Amanda King**, Spanish major, were each awarded Helena R. Cheek Memorial Scholarships in the amount of \$500. **Samantha Jo Lesch**, French major, and **Fallon Diamond**, Spanish major, were selected for UNCW Bookstore Scholarships (\$125). Members of The Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative chose **Shanna Terry**, Spanish major, and **Jessica Coleman**, French major, to receive the two CFFLC Scholarships in the amount of \$250, which are given each year to majors in Foreign Languages. Italian student Christine Hines was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$500 by the Italian Heritage Society, Wilmington, NC. Congratulations to all!

## Focus on Faculty



Ashlee Balena

In 2004 **Balena**, lecturer of Spanish coordinated the summer study abroad program to Quito, Ecuador. Her first visit was ten years ago when she participated in the same program as a UNCW Spanish major. The students resided in Quito for two months last summer where they took classes in Spanish at La Universidad San Francisco de Quito and participated in exciting excursions to the jungle, the Pacific coast and the indigenous town of Otavalo. Ms. Balena will be accompanying another group to Ecuador this summer as well.



María Camí-Vela

**Cami-Véla** was a key speaker at the Women's Film Festival in Bilbao, Spain, where she discussed the growing presence of successful female directors in the world film industry. In Granada, at the International Conference of the Association of Spanish Film Historians, she presided over a round-table discussion of Spanish documentary films. In addition, she presented her paper "Women and Sex: Spanish Film Directors of the 90's at the International Conference on Women and Textuality, in Barcelona. Her review of Medina and Zecchi's book *Sexualidad y escritura (1850-2000)* appeared in *Symposium*, a journal in modern foreign literatures.



Pascale Barthe

**Barthe** organized a session entitled "Oriented Itineraries: Traces of Ottomanism" for the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Toronto, where she presented a paper on Jean Lemaire de Belges and his call for an alliance between the French and the Persians. Barthe served as faculty advisor to the French Club and took a record number of fifteen UNCW students to Marseille for a summer program.



Andrea Deagon

**Deagon** received a research reassignment for Fall 2004 to work with co-author Shareen el Safy on *Raqs Sharqi/Belly Dance: Oriental Dance in the East and West*, a book that provides an introduction to the history, cultural context, aesthetics and performance of oriental dance. Her essay "Endymion" is forthcoming in *Southern Humanities Review*.



Raymond Burt

**Burt** was promoted to Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. He continues as coordinator of the UNC German Studies Consortium and, with Oliver Speck, submitted a proposal for a UNCW German Studies major. In addition, he serves as business manager of the Modern Austrian Literature and Culture Association. In 2004, he accompanied students participating in UNCW's Summer Program to Bremen, Germany, and established a program for physics students at the University of Ulm.



Denise DiPuccio

**DiPuccio** was invited to present a segment on Mozart's *Don Giovanni* for the Modern Language Association radio show called *What's the Word*. DiPuccio also presented the paper, "The Intertextual Trials of Maritza Wilde's *Adjetivos*," at the annual meeting of the South Atlantic Modern Language Association. She is a member of "North Carolina in the World," a state-wide committee that is exploring ways for implementing foreign language programs in the elementary and middle schools.

## Focus on Faculty



Regina Félix

**Félix** continues to develop the Portuguese Program. In the past year, she received a North Carolina Humanities Council grant to organize a panel for the Brown v. Board of Education Learning Community. She used the Summer Initiative grant to travel to libraries and research institutes in Brazil to study literary and filmic production by women. Félix presented three scholarly papers at various international conferences and has three works under review for publication both in Brazil and in the United States.



Scott Juall

In fall 2004, **Juall** discussed his Peace Corps experience as a high school biology teacher and disease control specialist in Bénin, West Africa at the Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative. He presented on early modern French travel encounters with the Muslim East at the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference in Toronto, Ontario. At the UNCW College Day he lectured on the postcolonial cinema of Senegalese director Ousmane Sembène. He continues to research and write on early modern French travel narratives and francophone literature, cinema and music.



Agnes Ille

In May '04 **Ille** went to Pescara, Italy to initiate communication between the mayor of Pescara and the mayor of Wilmington. The Italian Heritage Society hoped to establish a sister city, Wilmington- Pescara. While in Pescara she also met with the Director of the Foreign Languages dept of the University of Chieti-Pescara to establish a student exchange program.



Yoko Kano

This was the seventh year of the collaborative virtual class on Japanese culture with Mie University in Japan taught by **Kono**. In addition to this innovative course, Kano received a grant from the office of the President of the UNC system to develop two intermediate level E-Learning Japanese language courses, which are now offered between UNCW and ECU. The forth-semester students of Japanese will start corresponding with Japanese students in the target language and create informational web sites in Japanese for Japanese guests coming to Wilmington and Greenville area.



Miguel Jiménez

**Jiménez** organized and directed the 2004 Summer Study Abroad program in his home town of Úbeda, Spain, a Renaissance city protected by UNESCO. He is organizing the same program for Summer 2005. He taught the first two levels of Russian language at UNCW. Miguel worked on his Ph.D. in Translation Studies at the University of Granada concentrating in software localization, the process of translating a software system into different local languages.



P. J. Lapaire

**Lapaire** serves as assistant chair and French section coordinator. He created and taught a senior seminar on France at war in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century (both World and Colonial), supervised two honor theses and several more directed studies (20 of them in four years). He has four book reviews forthcoming on Albert Camus and the French Resistance and is currently working on another article on French novelist and rock lyricist Philippe Dijan.

## Focus on Faculty



Donna McGiboney

**McGiboney** received a 2004 Center for Teaching Excellence Pedagogy Development award in order to explore service learning assessment practices. In April of 2004, Donna presented the paper “Mother/Daughter Relationships and the Male Narrator in the Works of Clara Sánchez” at the University of Kentucky’s Foreign Languages Conference. In October of 2004 at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania’s conference on Hispanic Literature, she presented on the works of Clara Sánchez and Alicia Giménez Bartlett.



Lizzy Pressley

**Pressley** participated in the University’s Learning Community program in the fall. She teamed up with Deb Bowen from the Department of Social Work to teach *The Latino Link: Social Work Without Borders*. Students in this program received credit for basic studies courses while focusing on Latino issues in the community. In addition, they performed 25 hours of service-learning at local agencies that provided service or assistance to the Latino population.



Joann McFerran Mount

**Mount** continues to serve as coordinator of the Foreign Language Teacher Education Program, coordinator of the Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative, and co-sponsor of Rho Lambda, the UNCW chapter of Sigma Delta Pi (National Spanish Honor Society). In October, she attended the annual conference of the Foreign Language Association of North Carolina in Raleigh and a lecture by Isabel Allende in Durham. Research is ongoing in Spanish American literature and culture.



Valerie Rider

**Rider** says her two greatest joys are teaching and travelling. What could be better than combining the two in our department? This year, she and her “kids” journeyed to beautiful Andalucía, Spain, for Spring Break, and to Valparaíso, Chile, during Summer Session II. Valerie is also directing an Honors Seminar. This semester, her students mentor Spanish-speaking elementary school children, an enriching experience for all! A future seminar will have her teaching Spanish language and culture through cuisine. Between teaching, travel, and Honors, Valerie stays busy ... just how she likes it!



R. Terry Mount

**Mount** is currently serving as coordinator of the Spanish section and continues as coordinator of the graduate program in Hispanic studies. His translation of Berceo’s *Vida de Santa Oria* and a revision of the Mount-Cash translation *Miracles of Our Lady* have been accepted by Medieval and Renaissance Texts and Studies for publication. His encyclopedia article on *Lazarillo de Tormes* is forthcoming. Mount participated College Day 2004 by giving a class on Alfonso X’s *Cantigas de Santa María*.



Michelle Scatton-Tessier

**Scatton-Tessier** accepted a tenure-track position in French in 2004. She offered her first interdisciplinary film course and co-organized our second *Cinema Nouveau* film festival which was once again a success for the university and community. In December, Michelle welcomed three more students into UNCW’s chapter of *Pi Delta Phi*. She presented two scholarly papers and is pleased to mention the forthcoming publications of a co-translation with Eric Tessier of a text by Danielle Robert-Guédon in *Filigranes* and an article on *Amélie* in *Studies in French Cinema*.

## Focus on Faculty



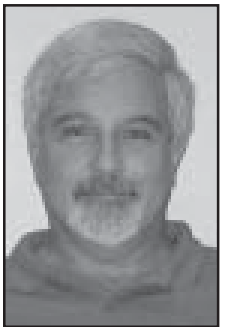
Oliver Speck

**Speck** spent Spring 2004 in Paris doing research for a book on national identity in European cinema. While abroad, he presented two papers: "Creating Perspectives: National Identity and Cinema," at the 4th Annual European Cinema Research Forum, in Newcastle, England; and "Parasites and Para-sites" at the 2nd International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, in Prato, Italy. On campus in the Fall, Oliver taught German 201 and two sections of FST 205 "Perspectives in World Cinema."



John Stevens

**Stevens** teaches courses in Spanish language and linguistics. His areas of specialization include Hispanic linguistics, phonetics, second language acquisition, and Spanish dialectology. In the fall of 2004, he served as the Director of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's Study Abroad Program in Santander, Spain. In addition to teaching an intensive grammar and conversation course focusing on Castilian Spanish, he led his group of 21 students on excursions to Santiago de Compostela, Salamanca, Cáceres, Mérida, and Madrid. He is currently investigating the connection between cultural attitudes and the acquisition of Spanish as a second language in a study abroad context.



Peter Thomas

During the summer, **Thomas** traveled and conducted literary research in Lima and Arequipa, Peru. In October he presented a paper titled "La ciudad de Quito como signo del laberinto en Antiguas caras en el espejo de Francisco Proano" at the 54<sup>th</sup> Mountain Interstate Foreign Language Conference at the University of Tennessee as part of his on-going research on Ecuadorean narrative.

## New Faculty



Mary Watts

**Watts** (assistant professor of Spanish) received her doctorate in Spanish Applied Linguistics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2004. Her dissertation research focused on second language incidental vocabulary acquisition through reading. She presented papers based upon her dissertation research at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference and the American Association for Applied Linguistics Conference. Watts is currently preparing articles for publication, as well as materials for future research in second language vocabulary acquisition. Welcome to the department, Mary!

## Phased Retirement

Teresita Parra



**Teresita Parra** (associate professor of Spanish) joined UNCW in 1986. Parra spearheaded FLL's efforts to create a curriculum that complements students' career goals. To that end, she developed the very popular "Spanish for Business" courses at the first- and third-year levels. A specialist in Spanish American literature, Parra published a book on the Venezuelan author Arturo Uslar Pietri and articles on contemporary female Spanish American short story writers. During her tenure at UNCW, Parra has also volunteered in several administrative capacities. She served as coordinator of the Spanish section, co-coordinated UNCW's Latin American Studies and assessed the Spanish portion of the Foreign Language Business Competency Exam for students majoring in International Business. During her retirement, Parra plans to travel, continue her research, try her hand at creative writing, and spend time with her children and grandchildren. Her gentle but strong presence will be greatly missed by students and colleagues alike.

# Focus on Faculty

## Phased Retirement

James McNab



**Jim McNab** (professor of French and Assistant Provost for International Programs) came to UNCW in 1989 as chair of FLL, in which capacity he initiated and presided over major curricular and personnel changes in the Department. A specialist of early twentieth-century French Literature and Cultural Studies, Jim developed many new courses in French and in literature in translation, earning rave reviews from his students, most notably for his work on Rimbaud's legacy and impact on the Beat Generation. In spring of 1997, he became Director of the Office of International Programs (OIP), a title that was later changed to Assistant Provost. Under McNab's leadership, the campus strengthened and solidified its focus on internationalization.

FLL and OIP have worked together harmoniously in their efforts to send our students abroad, receive international students on UNCW's campus, and host visiting international scholars. McNab will spend spring 2005 in South Africa, where he will work on developing new academic exchange programs. He plans to move back to Europe in 2006. We wish him and his family well as they enter this new phase in their lives.

## Cape Fear Foreign Language Collaborative Membership in CFFLC Continues to Grow

The CFFLC recorded an all time high of 47 members in the spring of 2004! This reflects increased interest in foreign language study and professional endeavors.

Membership is composed of area K-12 teachers in public and private schools, instructors from community colleges, faculty at UNCW, and UNCW students preparing for the teaching profession. Eight counties from southeastern North Carolina are currently represented.

Programs in 2004 included presentations on Alfonso X of Spain, Peace Corps experiences in Africa, the adaptation and use of film resources and authentic media in FL classrooms, and the teaching of indigenous cultural materials. Meetings also included teacher swaps of classroom activities and strategies and a discussion of the state of FL programs in southeastern North Carolina.

The Collaborative sponsored an educational display and craft booth at the UNCW Intercultural Festival in February. Hands-on activities were provided for children, youth, and adults and featured international flags, Guatemalan worry dolls, *mola* designs from Panama, information on stained glass from France, and posters showing masterpieces of Spanish, Mexican, and Italian art.

The CFFLC is in its 15<sup>th</sup> year of sponsorship by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. To join the CFFLC or make a scholarship donation, please contact Joann Mount, Coordinator of CFFLC, at [mountj@uncw.edu](mailto:mountj@uncw.edu). Dues are \$10 per year.

## Alumni

**Joel Bullard** (SPN '03) is engaged to Loreto Tessini, of Valparaíso / Viña del Mar (Chile), whom he met when she was an exchange student at UNCW. Wedding plans are tentative but those bells will be ringing sometime in 2005. Joel has recently moved to Clinton and is teaching ESL in Sampson County.

**Liz Cherry** (FRH '99) is currently doing a Ph.D. in sociology at the University of Georgia (Athens).

**Ray Congo**, (Classical Studies minor '03) is pursuing an MA in Classical Studies at the University of Kentucky, Lexington, and teaching in their Latin program.

**Jay Culpepper** (SPN '04) has been named Director for International Sales and Marketing (Mexico) for Parks Livestock, Inc.

# Alumni

**Jason Steven Edwards** (FRH/FST '01) works for the film company, Original Productions, and was the producer for the series, "Big!" that premiered on the Discovery Channel in June 2004.

**Bruce Heath** (SPN '91) is still employed by the CDC (Center for Disease Control). He has been transferred to San Juan, Puerto Rico, where he is the Sub-Director of the STD/HIV Program. Previously, Bruce worked for the CDC in Miami and Atlanta. He has been married for ten years and has two children. Bruce expects to serve for several years in San Juan.

**Candice Johnson** (SPN '04) is currently at UNCCH getting a graduate degree in Social Work.

**Jeff Justice** (FRH/HST '03) is employed as an international marketing specialist for the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. His duties include promoting North Carolina agricultural products on the international market.

**Teresa Krebs** (FRH/SPN '00) is the International Programs Manager for the Frank Foundation Child Assistance International, an organization that facilitates adoptions from Russia and Kazakhstan.

**Katie Kyle** (SPN '03) currently works as a professional medical interpreter for the Temple University Health System.

**Taya Owens** (SPN '04) recently worked in administration at the Berlitz Language Center. Nevertheless, in early 2005, Taya will join the English Teacher Training program of the Peace Corps. She will spend two years working with primary school teachers in Asia.

**María Paulina (Poly) Alwayay-Hopkins** (SPN, teacher licensure '93) earned National Certification in Spanish from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards in 2004. Poly is teaching Spanish at Episcopal High School of Baton Rouge, LA.

**Charlotte (Charlie) Robey** (SPN '03) works for her family's business, Residential and Industrial Cleaning Company (R.I.C.), where she uses Spanish on a daily basis. In fall 2005, Charlie plans to begin the Master's program in Spanish Literature and Language at UNCC. She will continue working full-time at her family's business and going part-time to graduate school.

**Kristin Rogin** (SPN '03) works for the law firm of Wallace, Witty, Frampton, & Veltry, P.C. in New York. In addition to coordinating the court/deposition calendar, Kristin translates legal documents and serves as interpreter for phone and in-office consultations between attorneys and Hispanic clients who do not speak English.

**Mary Sims** (FRH '03) is working for Inveresk, an investment firm. She is currently part of a team handling transactions with the pharmaceutical company, PPD.

**Marianella Smith** (Certificate in Hispanic Studies '04) teaches Spanish full-time at Southeastern Community College in Whiteville, North Carolina. Marianella is also a part-time lecturer of Spanish at UNCW.

**Suzanne Ward** (Certificate in Hispanic Studies '04) teaches full-time at Davidson County Community College in Lexington, North Carolina. She is currently teaching Spanish and Humanities classes. Suzanne will spearhead the college's plans to launch a Community Spanish Interpreter program in fall 2005.

**Adrienne Westlake** (SPN '02) took classes not only in Spanish but also in Japanese and Italian. Her background in Japanese is surely useful right now since she is living and teaching in Japan.





Leuzte Hall- Home of the Department of  
Foreign Languages and Literatures

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